

III. REMARKS

Claim 16 has been cancelled and claims 17 and 18 now have correct dependencies, thus these claims are no longer objectionable.

Claim 34 has been amended to recite "same channel" which is found in claim 31. Thus claim 34 now conforms to 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claim 1 now recites a short range radio frequency connection between the second network element and the aircraft terminal. The remaining independent claims have similar limitations.

On page 7 of the Office Action the Examiner has objected to claim 16 by referring to col. 3, lines 36-39, of Young where Young teaches use of an infrared optical link in the aircraft, but fails to teach a short range radio frequency connection such as Bluetooth or WLAN for example. An infrared optical link does not work well for a telephone because an infrared optical link needs to be accurately aligned to function which does not work well for a telephone that the user usually keeps to his/her ear when making a voice call. A short range radio frequency connection avoids such disadvantages.


Since the independent claims recite the radio frequency connection with the advantages discussed above, and since none of the references disclose or suggest this feature, all claims are unobvious under 35 USC 103.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims present in the application are clearly novel and patentable, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration

and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$790.00 is enclosed for the RCE fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any other fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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